

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 08691 170248 Z

14

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

DPW-01 RSR-01 /095 W

----- 084921

R 170215 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1770

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8691

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, VS

SUBJECT: CIVILIAN DETAINEES TRAN NGOC CHAU, NGO BA THANH, ET AL

REF: ( A ) STATE 09812; ( B ) SAIGON 8578

1. VIETNAM PRESS MAY 16 QUOTES GVN SPOKESMAN AS CONFIRMING  
" FOREIGN NEWS REPORT.... THAT RVN... WILL RETURN MRS. NGO BA  
THANH, LAWYER NGUYEN LONG, TRAN NGOC CHAU, AND STUDENT HUYNH  
TAN MAM TO THE COMMUNISTS."

2. PRECISELY CONTRARY INFORMATION, HOWEVER, WAS GIVEN EMBOFFS  
IN CONVERSATION TODAY WITH BRIGADIER GENERAL LE TRUNG TRUC,  
SECRETARY GENERAL OF GVN INTERMINISTERIAL COMMITTEE ON CEASEFIRE  
IMPLEMENTATION. TRUC SAID THAT " PRESIDENT AND PRIME  
MINISTER" HAD DECIDED ABOUT FIVE DAYS AGO NOT REPEAT NOT TO  
TURN MRS. THANH, CHAU, OR MAM OVER TO THE COMMUNISTS. TRUC  
WAS QUITE POSITIVE ON THIS POINT, NOTING THAT TWO WEEKS AGO  
THESE PROMINENT PRISONERS HAD BEEN SPECIFICALLY INCLUDED IN LIST  
OF 500 FOR SECOND INSTALLMENT RELEASE TO PRG. HE ADDED THAT  
HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT GVN WOULD EVENTUALLY DECIDE TO DO WITH  
THE NON- COMMUNIST POLITICAL DETAINEES, SINCE GVN FEARED  
THEY WOULD CAUSE TROUBLE IF FREE TO AGITATE AGAINST GVN  
POLITICAL SYSTEM, IN THIS RESPECT HE DREW SHARP DISTINCTION TO  
ANTI- THIEU APPOSITIONISTS LIKE GENERAL " BIG" MINH  
WHO WORKS WITHIN THE SYSTEM.

WHITEHOUSE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 08691 170248 Z

CONFIDENTIAL  
NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ARBITRATION, POLITICAL PRISONERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 MAY 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973SAIGON08691  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** SAIGON  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1973/newtext/t19730548/aaaajkml.tel  
**Line Count:** 63  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 STATE 9812, 73 SAIGON 8578  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06 DEC 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <06-Dec-2001 by shawdg>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> mcm 980219  
**Subject:** CIVILIAN DETAINEES TRAN NGOC CHAU, NGO BA THANH, ET AL  
**TAGS:** PINT, VS, PFOR, PINT, (NGO BA THANH), (TRAN NGOC CHAU)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005